

KIDS DISCOVER SPACE EXPLORATION

1. p. 2 Name the nearest star to our sun. How far is it? How long would it take to get there at 600 miles per hour?

2. p4-5 List the 8 steps in the voyage of the space shuttle.
 - 1.
 - 2.
 - 3.
 - 4.
 - 5.
 - 6.
 - 7.
 - 8.

3. p6-7 Make a timeline of human space exploration.
 1. November 1957
 2. April 12, 1961
 3. May5, 1961
 4. Feb 20, 1962
 5. Dec 14, 1962
 6. March 18, 1965
 7. June 20 , 1969
 8. Dec 19, 1972

9. May 14, 1973

10. July 15, 1975

11. July 20, 1976

12. 1977

13. April 12, 1981

14. June 18, 1983

15. Feb 20, 1986

16. 1986-1989

17. April 24, 1990

18. 1997

19. Jan 29 1998

20. 2000's

4. p8-9 List three facts about life in space.

5. p 10-11 List 7 parts of ISS

6. p12-13 List the date and problem experienced by each of the space missions.

Apollo 1

Challenger

Columbia

Gemini 8

Apollo 13

7. p 14-15. List the launch dates and main purpose or discovery for each of the following space probes or satellites.

Voyager 1

Voyager2

Galileo

SOHO

Cassini-Huygens

Hubble

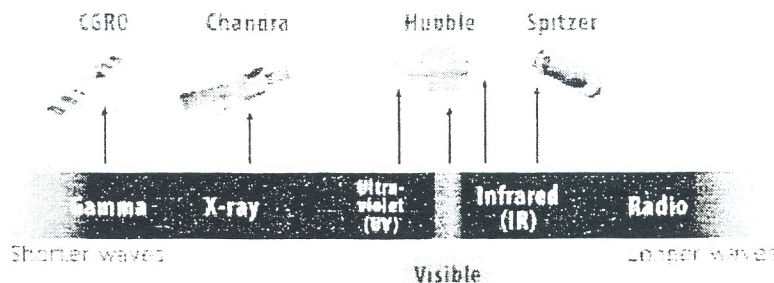
Chandra

Mars Orbital Camera on Mars Global Surveyor

Spirit and Opportunity

An introduction to NASA's Great Observatories

The four Great Observatories are a series of space telescopes meant to give the most complete picture of objects across many different wavelengths. Each observatory studies a particular wavelength region in great detail.

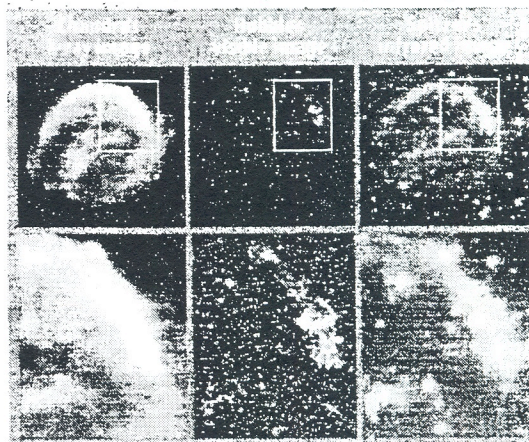


The telescopes, in order of launch, are: the Hubble Space Telescope (1990), Compton Gamma Ray Observatory (1991), Chandra X-ray Observatory (1999), and Spitzer Space Telescope (2003). The chart at top right shows each telescope above the wavelength region it was built to observe. All except for CGRO are currently in orbit.

Using each telescope for what it does best

Sometimes several of the Great Observatories are used to look at the same object. Astronomers can analyze an object thoroughly by studying it in many different kinds of light. An object will look different in X-ray, visible, and infrared light.

The images at right show the remains of an exploded star (Kepler's supernova), as seen by three of the Great Observatories.



Boxed areas in upper row are enlarged in lower row.